

STEPHEN WIRTZ GALLERY

JOSEPH STERLING

BORN

November 5, 1936
El Paso, TX

EDUCATION

1962
MS in Photography
Institute of Design, Illinois Institute of Technology

1959
BS in Photography
Institute of Design, Illinois Institute of Technology

Student of Harry Callahan, Aaron Siskind and
Frederick Sommer

1954-1956
Texas Western College

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2002
"The Age of Adolescence," Stephen Wirtz
Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2001
"Let's Have Lunch," Bonni Benrubi Gallery, New
York
"City 2000," Chicago Cultural Center

1996
"Together Again: Six Former Students of Harry
Callahan," Gallery 312, Chicago
"When Harry Met Aaron: Chicago Photography
1946-1971," Museum of Contemporary
Photography, Chicago
"Chicago Photography 1935-1965," James
Danzinger Gallery, New York
Kobe Aid Fund: World Photography Art Exhibition,
Kobe, Japan
Portland Photography Festival, Portland, OR

1993
"Two Person Show," Blue Sky Gallery, Portland,
OR

1992
"The Young Rebel in American Photography,
1950-1970," Museum of Modern Art, New York

1991-1992
"Goodness Gracious, Great Balls of
Fire/American Photographs 1948-1963," Ehlers-
Caudill Gallery, Chicago

1984
"Cityscapes," The Hallmark Collection Traveling
Exhibition



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1983
"Chicago: The Architectural City," Art Institute of
Chicago

1980
"The New Vision: Forty Years of Photography at
The Institute of Design. Light Gallery," New York

1979
"Discovering America 1959-1970," Art Institute of
Chicago

1977
"The Photographer and the City," Museum of
Contemporary Art, Chicago

1975
"For You Aaron," The Renaissance Society,
University of Chicago

1970's
Illinois Arts Council Traveling Exhibition.

1967
"Photography in the Twentieth Century,"
National Gallery of Canada
Expo '67: Photography Exhibition, Montreal

1966
"The Photographer's Eye," Museum of Modern
Art, New York
"One Person Show," Gallery 500D

1964
"One Person Show," Institute of Design, Chicago
Directions '64: Photography in Illinois
New York Worlds Fair Photography Exhibition
"Photography '63/An International Exhibition,"
The New York State Exposition and Eastman
House

1961
"Four Young Photographers," Art Institute of Chicago

SELECTED PUBLISHED IMAGES

Black and White Magazine, Issue 13, June 2001
The Oxford History of Western Art, Oxford University, 2000
Together Again, Gallery 312, Chicago, IL, 1996
Kobe Aid Fund, Tokyo, Japan, 1995
From Dry-plate to Digital: An American Century of Photography. Hallmark/Abrams, 1994
Blue Sky Gallery Catalog, Portland, OR, 1993
Aperture #87. The New Vision: Forty Years of Photography at The Institute of Design, 1981
The Family of Children. Ridge Press 1977
This Fabulous Century 1950-1960, Time-Life Books, 1970
The Camera as Witness Expo '67, Eastman House, 1967
Photography in the Twentieth Century, Eastman House, 1967

The Photographer's Eye, Museum of Modern Art, 1966
Photography Yearbook, 1965, 1966, 1967, London
Photography Magazine, Vol. 19/6, London, 1964
Photography 63/An International Exhibition, Eastman House, 1963
Asahi Journal, Tokyo, Japan, 1962
Aperture Magazine 9:2, 1961
Photography Independent 3, The Institute of Design, 1958

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Art Institute of Chicago
Center of Photography, Tokyo Institute of Polytechnics
Hallmark Photographic Collection
International Museum of Photography, Eastman House
Minneapolis Institute of Arts
Museum of Modern Art, New York

Joseph Sterling worked as a magazine and corporate/industrial photographer from 1960 to 1990. During this time he also taught, lectured and pursued personal photography. His commercial photography was known for its unique and powerful imagery and won numerous awards. Travel associated with this work allowed him to witness a vast number of exhibitions and concerts of classical music throughout North America, Europe, the Middle East and Central America. Time was often set aside, in these locations, to supplement personal photography projects. In 1990 he ceased accepting commercial assignments in order to devote his time to personal projects. In 1990 he and his late wife, Shirley, moved from Chicago to Mundelein, Illinois, where he has a large studio/work space. In 2000 he married Deborah Rarich.

Joseph Sterling has taught at The Institute of Design, Illinois Institute of Technology, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago and Columbia College of Chicago, where he established the Photography Department. He has also lectured widely.